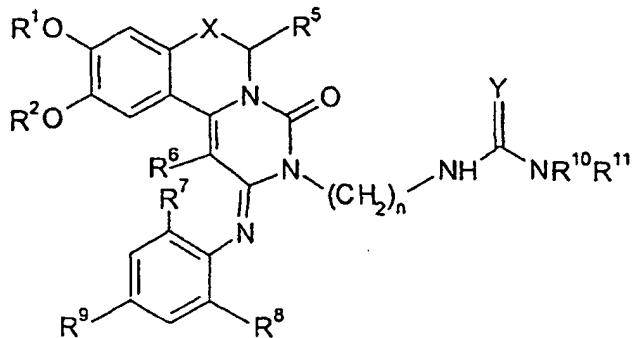


**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Claims 1-15 (cancelled).

Claim 16 (currently amended): A process for preparing a compound of general formula I:



I

wherein

each of R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> independently represents a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl or C<sub>2-7</sub> acyl group;

R<sup>5</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-3</sub> alkenyl or C<sub>2-3</sub> alkynyl group;

R<sup>6</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2-6</sub> alkynyl, amino, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino, di(C<sub>1-6</sub>) alkylamino or C<sub>2-7</sub> acylamino group;

each of R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> independently represents a hydrogen or halogen atom or a hydroxy, trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2-6</sub> alkynyl, C<sub>2-7</sub> acyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy,

C<sub>3-6</sub> cycloalkyl; and

R<sup>9</sup> represents a hydrogen or halogen atom or a hydroxy, trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2-6</sub> alkynyl, C<sub>2-7</sub> acyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy or C<sub>3-6</sub> cycloalkyl group;

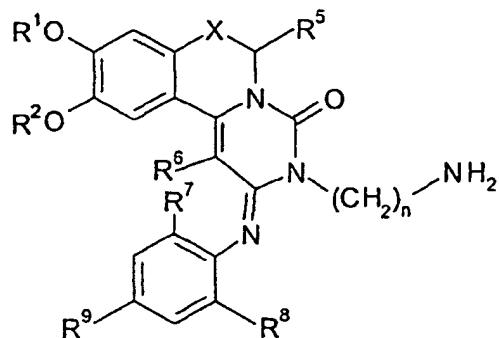
X represents a group CR<sup>3</sup>R<sup>4</sup>, wherein each of R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> independently represents a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl group;

each of R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>11</sup> independently represents a hydrogen atom, a C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3-6</sub> cycloalkyl or phenyl group;

Y represents an oxygen atom or a group CHNO<sub>2</sub>, NCN, NH or NNO<sub>2</sub>;  
n is an integer from 2 to 4;  
or a salt thereof,

the process comprising:

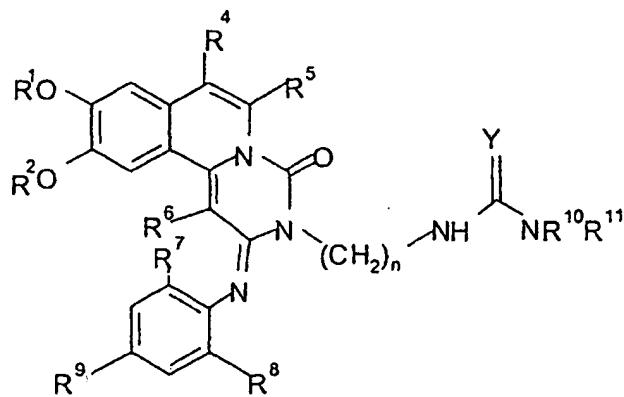
- (a) reacting a compound of general formula II:



II

wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>7</sup>, R<sup>8</sup>, R<sup>9</sup>, X and n are as defined for general formula I, with an amine-reactive compound selected from the group consisting of compound capable of reacting at the primary amine group of the aminoalkyl moiety - (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-NH<sub>2</sub>; (i) a cyanate salt, (ii) an isocyanate of the formula R<sup>11</sup>-NCO wherein R<sup>11</sup> is as defined for formula I, (iii) an N-C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl- or N-C<sub>3-6</sub> cycloalkyl-1-methylthio)-2-nitroethenamine of the formula CH<sub>3</sub>SC(=CHNO<sub>2</sub>)NR<sup>10</sup>R<sup>11</sup> wherein R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>11</sup> are as defined for formula I, (iv) a compound of the formula CH<sub>3</sub>SC(=NH)NR<sup>10</sup>R<sup>11</sup> or a salt thereof wherein R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>11</sup> are as defined for formula I, (v) a compound of the formula CH<sub>3</sub>SC(=NCN)NR<sup>10</sup>R<sup>11</sup> or a salt thereof wherein R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>11</sup> are as defined for formula I, and (vi) 2-methyl-1-nitro-2-isothiourea, to form a compound of general formula I; or

- (b) reacting a compound of formula II as defined in (a) with 1,1-bis(methylthio)-2-nitroethylene and reacting the resulting compound with an amine of the formula  $R^{10}R^{11}NH$  wherein  $R^{10}$  and  $R^{11}$  are as defined for formula I, to form a compound of formula I; or
- (c) reacting a compound of formula II as defined in (a) with N,N'-1,3-di-(tert-butoxycarbonyl)thiourea and treating the resulting compound with trifluoroacetic acid, to form a compound of formula I; or
- (d) reacting a compound of formula II as defined in (a) with dimethyl-N-cyanodithioiminocarbonate and reacting the resulting compound with an amine of the formula  $R^{10}R^{11}NH$  wherein  $R^{10}$  and  $R^{11}$  are as defined for formula I, to form a compound of formula I; or
- (e) when X in general formula I represents a group  $CR^3R^4$ , wherein  $R^3$  represents a hydrogen atom,  $R^4$  represents a hydrogen atom or a  $C_{1-3}$  alkyl group, and  $R^5$  represents a hydrogen atom or a  $C_{1-3}$  alkyl group, hydrogenating a compound of general formula III:



III

wherein  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^6$ ,  $R^7$ ,  $R^8$ ,  $R^9$ ,  $R^{10}$ ,  $R^{11}$ ,  $Y$  and  $n$  are as defined for general formula I;  
and

(c) —optionally converting a compound of general formula I so formed into another compound of general formula I.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein in general formula I, when Y represents an oxygen atom and each of R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>11</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, a compound of general formula II is reacted with sodium cyanate.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein in general formula I, when Y represents an oxygen atom, R<sup>10</sup> represents a hydrogen atom and R<sup>11</sup> represents a C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3-6</sub> cycloalkyl or phenyl group, a compound of general formula II is reacted with an isocyanate of the general formula R<sup>11</sup>NCO.

Claim 19 (original): A process as claimed in claim 18, wherein the isocyanate is isopropylisocyanate or phenylisocyanate.

Claim 20 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein in general formula I, when Y represents CHNO<sub>2</sub>, R<sup>10</sup> represents a hydrogen atom and R<sup>11</sup> represents a C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl or C<sub>3-6</sub> cycloalkyl group, a compound of general formula II is reacted with an N-C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl- or N-C<sub>3-6</sub> cycloalkyl-1-(methylthio)-2-nitroethenamine of the general formula CH<sub>3</sub>SC(=CHNO<sub>2</sub>)NR<sup>10</sup>R<sup>11</sup>.

Claim 21 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 20, wherein the compound of general formula II is reacted with N-methyl-1-(methylthio)-2-nitroethenamine.

Claim 22 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein in general formula I, when Y represents CHNO<sub>2</sub>, a compound of general formula II is reacted first with 1,1-bis(methylthio)-2-nitroethylene and the resulting

compound is then reacted with an amine of the general formula  $R^{10}R^{11}NH$ , wherein  $R^{10}$  and  $R^{11}$  are as defined for general formula I.

Claim 23 (original): A process as claimed in claim 22, wherein the amine is isopropylamine or dimethylamine.

Claim 24 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein when in general formula I, Y represents NH, a compound of general formula II is reacted with a compound of general formula  $CH_3SC(=NH)NR^{10}R^{11}$  or a salt thereof, wherein  $R^{10}$  and  $R^{11}$  are as defined for general formula I.

Claim 25 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein when in general formula I, Y represents NCN, a compound of general formula II is reacted with a compound of general formula  $CH_3SC(=NCN)NR^{10}R^{11}$  or a salt thereof, wherein  $R^{10}$  and  $R^{11}$  are as defined for general formula I.

Claims 26-50 (cancelled).

Claim 51 (previously presented): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein independently or in any compatible combination:

each of  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  independently represent a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl;

each of  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  represents a hydrogen atom;

$R^5$  represents a hydrogen atom;

$R^6$  represents a hydrogen atom;

each of  $R^7$  and  $R^8$  independently represent a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl;

$R^9$  represents a halogen atom or a methyl or acetyl group;

Y represents an oxygen atom or a group CHNO<sub>2</sub>; and

n is 2.

Claim 52 (previously presented): A process as claimed in claim 51, wherein each of R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> represents a C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl group; and each of R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> represents a methyl, ethyl or isopropyl group.

Claim 53 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein the compound of general formula I is selected from the group consisting of:

9,10-Dimethoxy-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3-(N-carbamoyl-2-aminoethyl)-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2H-pyrimido[6,1-a]isoquinolin-4-one;

9,10-Dimethoxy-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3-[N-(N'-isopropylcarbamoyl)-2-aminoethyl]-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2H-pyrimido[6,1-a]isoquinolin-4-one;

9,10-Dimethoxy-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3-[N-[1-(N'-methyl-2-nitroethenamine)]-2-aminoethyl]-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2H-pyrimido[6,1-a]isoquinolin-4-one;

9,10-Dimethoxy-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3-[N-[1-(N'-isopropyl-2-nitroethenamine)]-2-aminoethyl]-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2H-pyrimido[6,1-a]isoquinolin-4-one;

9,10-Dimethoxy-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3-[N-[1-(N', N'-dimethyl-2-nitroethenamine)]-2-aminoethyl]-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2H-pyrimido[6,1-a]isoquinolin-4-one;

9,10-Dimethoxy-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3-[N-(N'-phenylcarbamoyl)-2-aminoethyl]-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2H-pyrimido[6,1-a]isoquinolin-2-one;

9,10-Dimethoxy-3-[2-guanidinoethyl]-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2H-pyrimido[6,1-a]isoquinolin-4-one;

9,10-Dimethoxy-3-[N-(N'-nitro)-2-guanidinoethyl]-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2*H*-pyrimido[6,1-a]isoquinolin-4-one;

3-[N-(N'-Cyclohexylcarbamoyl)-2-aminoethyl]-9,10-dimethoxy-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2*H*-pyrimido[6,1-a]isoquinolin-4-one;

3-(*N*-Carbamoyl-2-aminoethyl)-9,10-dimethoxy-2-(2-methylphenylimino)-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2*H*-pyrimido[6,1-a]isoquinolin-4-one;

3-(*N*-Carbamoyl-2-aminoethyl)-2-(2,6-diisopropylphenylimino)-9,10-dimethoxy-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2*H*-pyrimido[6,1-a]isoquinolin-4-one;

3-(*N*-Carbamoyl-4-aminobutyl)-9,10-dimethoxy-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2*H*-pyrimido[6,1-a]isoquinolin-4-one; and

3-[N-(*N'*-Cyano-*N''*-methyl)-2-guanidinoethyl]-9,10-dimethoxy-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2*H*-pyrimido[6,1-a]isoquinolin-4-one.

Claim 54 (new): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein the cyanate salt in (a) is sodium cyanate.

Claim 55 (new): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein in formula I, when Y represents NNO<sub>2</sub>, R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>11</sup> each represents a hydrogen atom, and a compound of formula II is reacted with 2-methyl-1-nitro-2-isothiourea.

Claim 56 (new): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein in formula I, Y represents CHNO<sub>2</sub>, a compound of formula II is reacted with 1,1-bis(methylthio)-2-nitroethylene and the resulting compound is then reacted with an amine of the formula R<sup>10</sup>R<sup>11</sup>NH, wherein R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>11</sup> are as defined for formula I.

Claim 57 (new): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein in formula I, when Y represents NH, R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>11</sup> each represents a hydrogen atom, a compound of formula II is reacted with N,N'-1,3-di-(tert-butoxycarbonyl)thiourea and the resulting compound is then treated with trifluoroacetic acid.

Claim 58 (new): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein in formula I, when Y represents NCN, a compound of formula II is reacted with dimethyl-N-cyanodithioiminocarbonate and the resulting compound is then reacted with an amine of the formula R<sup>10</sup>R<sup>11</sup>NH wherein R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>11</sup> are as defined for formula I.